Concord Middle School Solar & Storage Project

Public Forum February 28, 2023



Agenda

- Town goals
- CMS solar plus storage project scope
- Who will own the Project?
- Visual rendering
- Capital cost
- Quantifiable costs and benefits
- Summary Financials
- Comparables
- No resiliency benefit
- Non-quantifiable benefits



Town Goals

- It has long been a goal of the Town to increase the amount of electricity procured from renewable sources
 - Specifically, from Concord-sited solar systems as secondary or complementary uses, including over parking areas and other passive infrastructure.
 - Indicators of Success
 - Total MW capacity of solar generation on town property
 - Today 7.57 MW / Goal 20 MW
 - Total MWh capacity of battery storage on town property
 - Today 0.0 MWh / Goal 60 MWh
- Prior Articles, plans and committees
 - 2022 Town Meeting Article 38 Development Plan for Municipal Solar Generation
 - 2020 Climate Action and Resilience Plan
 - 2018 Final Envision Concord Plan 2030
 - 2017 Town Meeting article 51 Concord's Energy Goals
 - 2015 Town Meeting Article 36 authorize long-term lease for municipal building rooftop and ground mounted solar panels
 - 2011 Solar Siting Committee; Concord Municipal Light Plant Renewable Energy Strategy

MS Project Scope

- Solar arrays covering the CMS roof and parking canopies PLUS a storage system
- The electrical output from the arrays is expected to exceed what CMS will use each year – it will be NET ZERO
- A storage system is needed in order for the Light Plant to absorb that much new solar on the distribution system

Who will Own the Project?

- CMLP has been working under the assumption of managing this project since late 2021 when the warrant article for the school building project was published
 - CMS fulfills its net-zero requirement
 - CMLP progresses towards its in-Town solar generation goal
 - CMLP rate payers will fund the project.
 - It is estimated that the monthly bill impact to CMLP residential customers will be between \$0.50 and \$1.70 in year 1 then decrease to a net savings by 2029 or 2035.

Visual Rendering



Visual Rendering



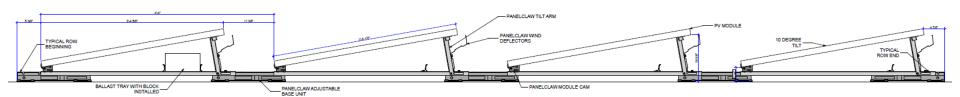
Middle School Photovoltaic System







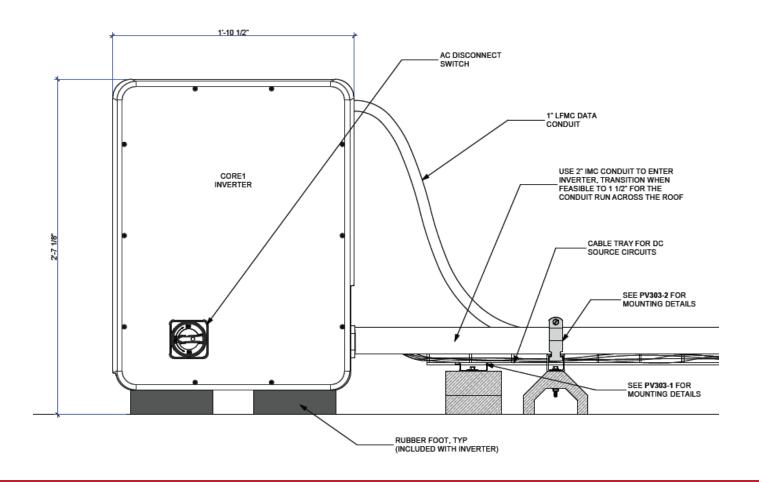
Rooftop Module Racking



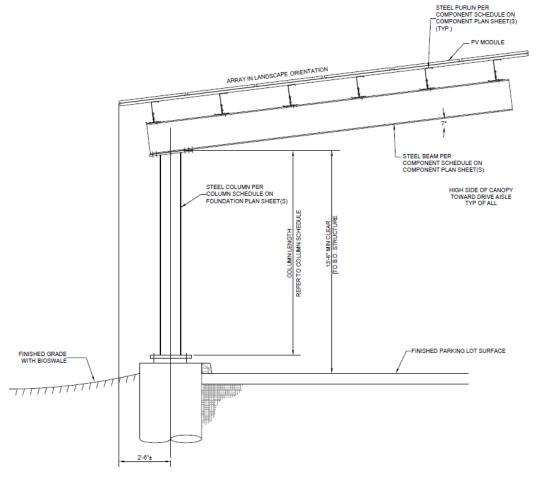




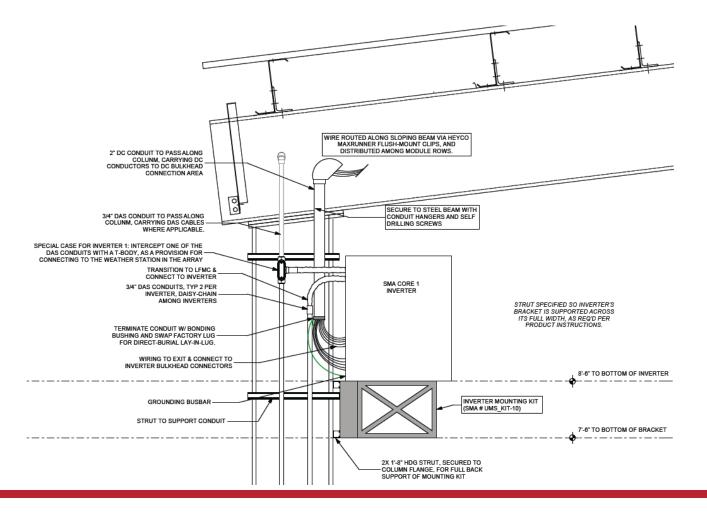
Rooftop Inverter



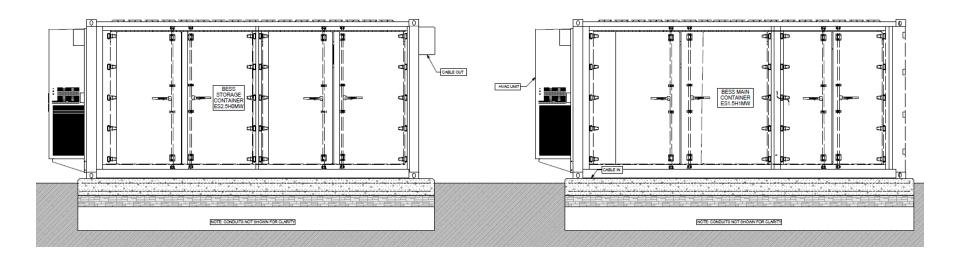
Canopy Mounting



Canopy Inverter



Energy Storage Example



Energy Storage Example



Capital Cost

- The \$13MM cost estimate in the Warrant article has been revised downward after the battery size was changed from 8MWh to 4MWh.
- The revised pricing, based on estimates provided by Solar Design Associates, CMLP's solar consultant, is between \$6 and \$7.5MM. This pricing is based on industry comparables and trends and is not based on actual vendor quotes.
- There is a wide variation in the capital cost because there may be an opportunity to receive grant funding.
 - The \$6MM cost estimate assumes the grants will apply.
 - The \$7.5MM cost estimate assumes no grant offset.
- CMLP expects to revise Article 21 to \$7.5MM with a handout.



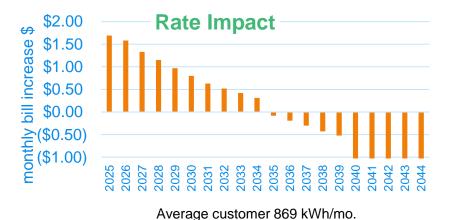
Quantifiable Costs and Benefits

- The project produces benefits
 - Non-carbon emitting electricity production
 - Peak cost mitigation
 - Energy arbitrage from the battery
- Costs include capital and annual maintenance
- The Summary Financials below subtract the benefits from the costs to derive a net present value of the annual resulting cash flow

Summary Financials

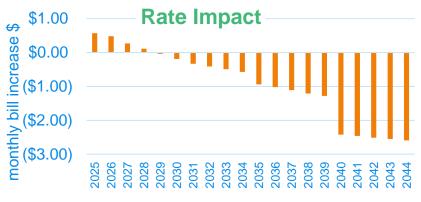
Without IRA Credit

X 1,000	Capital Cost	20-year NPV
Solar	4,614	(2,375)
Battery	3,339	1,802
Total	7,953	(573)



With IRA + ARPA Credits

X 1,000	Capital Cost	20-year NPV
Solar	3,604	(864)
Battery	2,668	2,473
Total	6,272	1,609



Average customer 869 kWh/mo.



No Resiliency Benefit

- CMLP will operate the battery to absorb the solar production and to offset costs
- In general, the battery will be
 - emptied by 10:00-11:00 a.m.
 - charged between 10:00 a.m. and 3:00 p.m.
 - discharged between 4:00 p.m. and 8:00 p.m.
 - It may be charged again between 1:00 a.m. and 4:00 a.m.
 - discharged again between 6:00 a.m. and 9:00 a.m.
- Final design may or may not allow the battery to supply the school during an outage.
- If the school experiences an electric outage at 10:00 a.m., there will be nothing in storage to draw from.

Non-quantifiable Benefits

- Environmental justice
 - By locating the project in Concord, we are not asking another community to shoulder the burden
- Educational Experience
 - Gets students interested in renewable energy, potential to involve in curriculum
- Parking canopy protection

APPENDIX

UMass Amherst Canopy



River Valley Co-op Solar





